

ter cups and want every body they meet to take a sip. Some people seem to take a morbid delight in making themselves and other people miserable. If they have no real troubles to worry about, they manufacture artificial ones, and their mills never shut down. They grind out just about as much misery whether the market is brisk or dull. They are like old, rusty pianos that have not been tuned for years. They are so full of discordant elements that no harmony can be evoked from them. Play on any key and you evoke nothing but a jangle. They whine and sigh, but they never sing. And yet a Christian above all others, should be forever singing at the heart.

A surer receipt for cheerfulness to be always on the alert for some pleasant thing that may happen to us. A washerwoman, in a miserable tenement house, was asked how she kept singing in her disheartening surroundings. "Oh, because there is always a breeze in the alley." She might have said it was because she had a singing heart within her. To every such soul God giveth songs in the night.

HOME TRAINING OF CHILDREN

OLIVE M. BULLA

This home instruction cannot be commenced too early. Pictures will convey a knowledge of sacred facts long before the child is able to read for itself and they will furnish abundant opportunity for making the memory familiar with the lessons they teach. A taste for drawing may thus be turned to good account and the sketch, fresh from the pencil of the father or mother will often be more effective than the purchased engraving. The stories, too, of the Old and New Testament are, when rightly treated, as fascinating to children as fairy tales and they will hear them over and over again with great interest. They may thus be made familiar with the most important truths from the earliest period of consciousness and as the reasoning faculties are developed, the practical truths, and even the doctrines of the Bible, may be made to drop as the rain and distil as the dew. Deut. 32:2. The evil of sin, the obligation of God's holy law, the necessity of a divine renewal of the heart and life, the love of God in the gift of his Son, salvation thru Christ alone, a life of holiness as the inseparable accompaniment of pardon, the hopes of a blessed immortality, may thus be taught in language which children will easily understand and in a spirit which will at once attract and impress their minds. The ways of wisdom must be made ways of pleasantness to those whom it is our earnest desire to lead therein. First impress on their young and tender minds that there is one God, who made all things, that he governs the world by his providence, that he ought to be worshiped by adoration, prayer and thanksgiving. There is nothing like kindness in the world. It is the very principle of love; an emanation of the heart which softens and gladdens and should be inculcated and encouraged in all our inter-

course with our fellow beings. It is impossible to resist continued kindness. We say to our friends one and all, please cultivate kindness in the home circle and make it as pleasant and happy for the little ones as possible. Hard words are like hail stone in summer, cold and harmful to all they hit, but kindness in the heart is like rose leaves in a drawer, to sweeten every object around them. Let it not be supposed that in minutely pointing out these habits as necessary to the right formation of character and as important to the child's well being, the higher aspects of life have been lost sight of. This is a habit easily formed, if the education begin sufficiently early, but which is rarely acquired if that opportunity be lost. Habits of kindness and consideration for others must be made a prominent object in the formation of character and the family association furnishes abundant opportunities for the cultivation of such habits. Children should be praised. To be constantly finding fault and magnifying petty errors into great sins will be productive of harm to the child's temper and will often lead him or her to think lightly of serious faults. The value of a happy intercourse among children during their residence at home cannot be too highly estimated. In a few years they must separate, some perhaps never to meet again in this world. How sad for them if they separate unhappy; this is too often the case. So dear readers, let us all cultivate kindness in our homes. We must cultivate love and kindness if we are true followers of Christ. Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye also unto them. Who is he that never felt a deep emotion at the thought of the home of his youth? How strange does it seem that we should add to the afflictions of life by a want of kindness, or aggravate by cruel words the bitterness with which the heart is already breaking. And if the sorrows of life demand sympathy from every member of the family, it is our duty to help bear one another's burdens. Surely there is an especial claim on us for deeds and words of kindness. So let us love one another with that pure love God intended we should and teach our children the same.

Cerro Gordo, Ill.

Boy Character

Selected.

It is the greatest delusion in the world for a boy to get the idea that his life is of no consequence and that the character of it will not be noticed. A manly, truthful boy will shine like a star in any community. A boy may possess as much of noble character as a man. He may so speak and live the truth that there shall be no discount on his word. And there are such noble, Christian boys, and wider and deeper than they are apt to think, in their influence. They are the boys among their fellows, having an immense influence for good, and loved and respected because of the simple fact of living the truth. Dear boys, do be truthful. Keep your word as absolutely sacred. Keep your

appointments at the house of God. Be known for your fidelity to the interests of the church and Sunday school. Be true in every friendship. Help others to be and do good.

Sisters' Society C. E.

From the President

To the S. S. C. E.—It was one of the many little things that are continually helping to "brighten the way with a smile," when, upon reaching Flora, I found sister Maude Wingard at the train to meet me, tho I hadn't written them the time, not knowing the railroad connections at Logansport. The attendance at the services both nights at Flora was not large, but I am glad to say the Society itself numbers about twenty five and is in working order. Miss Emma Wingard took a five dollar pledge for the foreign mission fund and her sister Maude, one for the theological fund.

A drive of about six miles from Flora brought us to Brother Summers' charge at Darwin, where I met with his people Saturday night, Sunday afternoon and night, which gave them ample time to consider the purpose and become acquainted with the workings of the S. S. C. E. They had been feeling the need of an organization of this kind for some time, and had inquired about it during the summer, but satisfactory information could not be given by correspondence, so they had organized as a Ladies' Aid Society. This they were willing to change for an S. S. C. E., after I had fully explained the purpose of our society, and before the Sunday night service they adopted our constitution. It was a stormy night, yet there were enough out to get seven additional names. They expect to work to lessen the debt on their new church building. It is a plain house, but it has what few of our churches can boast of and that is a raised floor. This should be found in every new church, as it is such an advantage to both speaker and audience, bringing one in full view of the other. I was exceedingly sorry they had failed to include a separate room for the primary department of the Sunday school. They have nearly all sisters as officers in their Sunday school.

Mrs. Sarah Rinehart gave her pledge for five dollars to the superannuated minister's fund. Sunday morning the Darwin people kindly took me over to the Salem church for their Sunday school. Monday and Tuesday nights I met with their church to revive the S. S. C. E. spirit, which was finally accomplished Tuesday night, when we organized with thirteen members. No new pledges were given here as yet, but a number of old ones redeemed. Brother Hopkins takes up the work here when they will have services twice a month instead of only once as before, and as at Darwin. May God richly bless and prosper these churches and give them all more than a once-a-month service.

VIANNA DETWILER.

Edna Mills, Ind.